Appl. No. 09/751,788
Amdt. dated December 8, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 9, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:

initialization memory containing initialization code,

a processor coupled to said initialization memory for executing said initialization code, and

a static random access memory ("SRAM") coupled to said processor and used to store variables used by the processor while executing said initialization code;

wherein said SRAM continues to receive power even if said system is otherwise powered off, said SRAM thereby being available for use by the processor without needing to subsequently be initialized when the processor executes the initialization code; and

wherein said static random access memory is assigned addresses overlaying at least a portion of the addresses assigned to said initialization memory.

2.   (Canceled).

3.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of Claim [[2]] 1 further including logic for selecting the initialization memory when the processor needs to read initialization code and for selecting the static random access memory when the processor needs to read or write to random access memory.

4.   (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1 further including dynamic random access memory coupled to said processor, wherein said initialization code is for initializing said dynamic random access memory.

5.   (Original) The apparatus of Claim 4 wherein said processor uses primarily only said dynamic random access memory when executing application code.

6.   (Currently amended) A method for operating a computer system comprising;

        providing initialization software in an initialization memory coupled to a processor;

        providing static random access memory coupled to the processor;

        assigning addresses to said static random access memory that overlay at
            least a portion of the addresses assigned to the initialization
            memory;

        providing power to said static random access memory even if the computer system is otherwise powered off; and

        executing the initialization code in the processor while using the static random access memory to store and retrieve variables needed by the code without having to initialize the static random access memory.

7.   (Original) The method of Claim 6 wherein said computer system includes dynamic random access memory and said initialization code is for initializing said dynamic random access memory.

8.   (Original) The method of Claim 7 further including using primarily only said dynamic random access memory when executing application code in said processor.

9.   (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:

        dynamic random access memory,

        initialization memory containing initialization code for initializing the dynamic random access memory at system startup, and

        a static random access memory functional before and at system startup for storing variables used for initializing the dynamic random access memory;

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wherein said static random access memory is assigned addresses overlaying at least a portion of the address space assigned to said initialization memory.

10.   (Original) The system of Claim 9, further including:
a processor coupled to said initialization memory for executing said initialization code upon system startup and coupled to said static random access memory for use in executing said code.

11.   (Original) The system of Claim 10 wherein said processor is coupled to said static random access memory after system startup for use in executing system code other than said initialization code.

12.   (Canceled).

13.   (Currently amended) The system of Claim ~~12~~ 9 further including means for selecting said static random access memory when said processor is executing said initialization code.

14.   (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:
dynamic random access memory,
initialization memory containing initialization code for initializing the dynamic random access memory at system startup,
a processor coupled to said initialization memory for executing said initialization code,
a static random access memory coupled to said processor and used to store variables used for initializing the dynamic random access memory while executing said initialization code, said static random access memory connected to and powered by a system power supply which remains active whenever AC power is supplied to the computer system and wherein said static random access

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memory is assigned addresses overlaying at least a portion of the addresses
assigned to said initialization memory.

15.   (Canceled).

16.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of Claim ~~15~~ 14 further including logic
for selecting the initialization memory when the processor needs to read
initialization code and for selecting the static random access memory when the
processor needs to read or write to random access memory.